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May 2018 LMD NL news will be due April 13, 2018.

E-Mail any information to me at
lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

There's Room for You in a Centering Prayer Group -

Centering Prayer is a particular form of quiet, receptive prayer as taught by Father Thomas Keating and Rev. Dr. Cynthia Bourgeault. A portion of each one-hour gathering will include some teaching about centering prayer. So, whether you never heard of centering prayer, are a beginner, or an experienced pray-er, all are welcome. **First Friday of each month - Apr. 6th - May 4th - Jun. 1st - Jul. 6th, 10:30 - 11:30 AM.** Led by Rev. Maritza Dolich and Rev. Dr. Tom Lichner. Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W. Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18102. Parking available in Lot across Hamilton St. from Church. **Please let us know if you will be joining us.** Inquiries to Rev. Dr. Tom Lichner, Director Center for Spiritual Awakening tlcichner@rcn.com / [610-533-9362](tel:610-533-9362)

Spiritual Care for Elder Care-Givers 2018 - Do you provide part time or full-time care for an elder? Would you like a safe place to share your joys and struggles with other care-givers? Would you appreciate companioning in nurturing your spirit? In today's American culture, many adults are providing full-time or part-time care for their elder parents, relatives, friends, or neighbors. Elder-care-giving can certainly be challenging, presenting both joys and frustrations to elders and their care-givers. This every-other-month gathering will provide participants with a time of guided prayer, supportive conversation around joys and struggles, and sharing new ideas for offering care. Come and go to these gatherings as you might need and desire. There is no need to make a commitment to each one. Parking is available in a lot across Hamilton Street from the church. Meetings will be held at the Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, [1245 W. Hamilton St., Allentown, PA 18102](http://www.lehighlutherans.com). 1:30 - 3:00 PM **Wednesday's: May 16th, July 18th, 2018.** Each gathering will be led by Rev. Dr. Tom Lichner, specially trained in Pastoral Counseling and Spiritual Direction. Please direct your interest to Pastor Tom Lichner at tlcichner@rcn.com OR [610-533-9362](tel:610-533-9362).

SAVE THE DATE!

CROP Hunger Walk: Sun., Oct. 14, 2018, 1:30 p.m., with registration beginning at 12:45 p.m. at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, [140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA](http://www.lehighlutherans.com)

Thank you for your support of our neighbors in need!

Contemplative Prayer - Prayer Around the Cross - You are invited to join with others for a time of contemplative opening to the Spirit of God in and around us. We invite God's Light to shine in our hearts and to awakening our consciousness to live lives of mercy, justice, and love. Please join together in this brief time of sacred reading, silent reflection, poetry, chanting, candle lighting, intercessory prayer, and ample space for quiet reflection. **Third Sat. of each Month, 5:00 - 5:45 PM** at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W. Hamilton Street, Allentown, Pa, 18102. Parking lot across street from church. Address inquiries to Rev. Tom Lichner at tlcichner@rcn.com.

Can you provide an hour or two per week to help someone who wants to change their life? St Luke's at 417 N 7th St, Allentown still has an ongoing need for volunteers to assist as tutors or substitutes for our growing multi-level ELL Program for individuals who desperately want to learn English. No foreign language needed. **ELL days and hours are, Monday and Thursday 9:30-11:30 a.m. and Wednesdays from 5:00-7:00 p.m.** We always need help. We are especially looking for people who a comfortable around computers. Contact Leslie Talago or Pastor Lamb at [610-434-3943](tel:610-434-3943) or stluke@enter.net.

Crossroads at St. Paul's-Allentown:

"Lord, when did we see you?"

The winter overnight shelter season draws to an end on April 30th, but the ministry, and the needs, go on. Thanks to our many partners, St. Paul's will continue hosting the homeless over the summer, including health care and service opportunities. We won't be open as many days or hours each week, but those in need continue to need health and hygiene products, and non-perishable foods to tide them over until the next meal is available. Contact St. Paul's-Allentown at [610 435-9065](tel:610-435-9065), or email jennstpauls1st@ptd.net.

Please pray as you are led. Please give as you are able.

Antibacterial Wipes	Nail Clippers
Band-Aids	Q-Tips
Combs	Shampoo
Deodorant	Small Towels
Feminine Hygiene Products	Hairbrushes
Toothbrush	Toothpaste
	Washcloths

THREE TREES ON THE HILL

My family recently called my attention to a book identified as *The Tale of Three Trees* which is identified as "A Traditional Folktale." It involves the re-telling of a folktale by Angela Elwell Hunt and it includes beautiful hand-drawn illustrations by Tim Jonke. I had never seen it before, but it certainly stroked my imagination and prompted some significant reflections on the meanings associated with Lent and Easter.

This "tale" begins with a description of three pine-like trees growing alongside one another near a mountaintop in the Holy Land. They are reflecting about what they are going to "become" when they grow up. The first tree imagines that it might become the most beautiful treasure chest in the world. The second tree visions itself becoming a sailing ship. The third tree imagines that it will simply remain on the hill and as a result of its beauty remind people looking at it to raise their eyes to heaven and think of God. And, even as they contemplate their destinies, they are approached by several woodcutters who axed them to the ground and proceeded to move them in different directions.

The first tree was delivered to a woodworking shop which was committed to building stable boxes, primarily to serve as feeding boxes for animals. And the carpenter set about transforming this tree into such a container which was purchased by an inn in the Bethlehem area. The second tree was delivered to a shipyard where there were men building substantial fishing boats on what we will imagine was the Sea of Galilee. This tree became a fishing boat which was placed in the hands of a special group of fishermen who were very much attached to this area. The third tree became particularly anxious and disheartened when it was simply turned into construction wood and set aside for use at a later date. It was certainly anticipating a more significant place in history than that.

But as the story continues, each of these trees becomes associated with a holy image. Indeed, it starts out with Christmas as that container which that inn in Bethlehem purchased became the "manger" in which the newborn Jesus of Nazareth spent the first days of his human life. The fishing boat which was constructed from the wood of the second tree became the boat in which Jesus was sleeping as that storm attacked both him and some of his disciples, causing him to rise and say "peace, be still." And the third tree attained to more than its level of expectation as two large pieces of it were transformed into the cross on which our Lord was sacrificed. The image of that tree is still very much among us, although it is now more normally constructed from gold or silver than from the wood of that tree on the hillside. As we move on through Lent and approach Easter, we give thanks for the contributions of each of the *Three Trees on the Hill*.

Pastor Richard Stough
LMD Secretary

OPERATION SUNSHINE

36 S. 8th St, Allentown, PA 18101

Phone: 610-435-9155

Open: Mon 11-3 Wed. 9-4

E-mail: LMDopsunshine@aol.com

Web site: www.LMDopsunshine.com

Paula & Dick Skelly Co-Trip Coordinators

Day of Trip Emergency Number [610-417-3286](tel:610-417-3286)

Operation Sunshine is a non-profit fellowship opportunity within our Mission District, run solely by volunteers. Please join us and invite your friendsr.

May 22 (Tues) – Mount Airy Lodge – ELVIS JAILHOUSE

ROCK - Come spend an afternoon Not just any Elvis, but "The Worlds #1 Elvis". This high energy Tribute is filled with all your favorite hits such as: "Jailhouse Rock", "Blue Suede Shoes", "Don't Be Cruel", "Love Me Tender" and so many more. Our Elvis has the looks, the charisma, and the moves that will leave you all shook up! Lunch Buffet and \$15 slot play included with this trip.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10 am and returns approximately 5:30 pm. Cost \$ 64.00 Deadline: Thurs., May 3

June 27 (Wed) – Fulton Theatre - Hunchback of Notre Dame-

The musical begins as the bells of Notre Dame resound through the famed cathedral in 15th-century Paris. Quasimodo, the deformed bell ringer, observes all of Paris reveling in the Feast of Fools. Held captive by his devious caretaker, Archdeacon Dom Claude Frollo, Quasimodo escapes and joins the boisterous crowd, only to be treated cruelly by all but the beautiful gypsy, Esmerelda. Quasimodo isn't the only one captivated by her, though - the handsome Captain Phoebus and Frollo are equally enthralled. Lunch at The Pressroom.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 9:30 am and will return approximately 6:30 pm. Cost \$97.00 Payment Deadline: Thursday, May 17

July 26 (Thursday) - Bucks County Playhouse - 42nd Street-

When revered Broadway director Julian Marsh falls on hard times with both his health and his finances, he helms an ambitious musical as a final production before his retirement. His lead actress, Dorothy Brock, is torn between two loves - the show's wealthy backer, Abner Dillon, and the earnest but penniless actor Pat Denning. Lunch will be at the Lambertville Station Restaurant. **Lunch Choices:** Chicken Moscato (sautéed chicken breast in tomato and white wine sauce with thyme), Maple Mustard Salmon, both served with rice pilaf and seasonal veggies, or Top Sirloin with wild mushroom butter served with roasted red potatoes and seasonal veggies. **Please choose your entree at the time of reservation.**

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00am and will return approximately 6:30pm Cost \$99 Payment Deadline: Thursday, June 28